

THE CAPITAL JOURNAL.

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LET THEM BE EQUALIZED.

The State Board of Equalization now in session will probably not repeat its outrage of last year and make a horizontal line of any kind of property. Last year they took the unwarrantable liberty of adding thirty percent to town lots and ten percent to real estate all over the state. They raised the whole state valuation some thirty millions from what it was returned by the county boards of equalization. The supreme court said they had the legal power to do so. If forty supreme court decisions said so that would not make it right. It might make it legal. Of course, the depression, one might almost say destruction, of values, the past year will leave little room for the playful fancy of the alleged tax equalizers. Their exuberant spirit may be stimulated by drawing \$10 a day for their services, but they know that no one else is making that sum per day, and that there is hardly a business or a bank or a corporation in the state earning that sum per day, or likely to this coming year, and they will hesitate before getting into any playful mood of elevating values by the scores of millions.

Their plain duty is to equalize. That means, if property in adjoining counties is assessed disproportionately high or disproportionately low, they are to lower the former and raise the latter. That is equalizing. Nothing else is. They have no legal or moral right to assume that all the property in the state has returned too high, or too low. They have no automatic power to fix values or assume anything. The power to tax is the power to destroy and the people should be jealous guard any assumption of ex-ante methods on the part of any public official when it comes to assessment and taxation. The most manifest injustice is in the way the county assessors this year advanced the valuations of town lots over last year, and the high assessment of homes and cattle. No real estate has declined in value like town and city lots since 1892 and homes and cattle will not sell for what they are assessed at.

It was undoubtedly to meet the ex-ante ultimatum of the state board last year in raising town lots thirty percent that assessors made such an advance on that class of property this year. That illustrates the evil effect of assumptions in dealing with such matters. Tax levies on town and city property are in fixed mills, and usually to the full limit of the charter.

This most perishable class of real estate, town and city property, should be reduced, if it could be done with fairness and justice to other interests. But how can it be done without increasing the burden on farming property? After all the city is better able to stand it than the farmer. The city lives off the farmer. It gathers toll off the producer and to be relieved of taxes at the expense of the farmer is out of the question. City taxes should not be levied in specific mills.

In considering valuations between counties, it is plain that Marion county is assessed relatively far above other farming counties that have as rich lands and are as finely improved communities. Marion county has had a very thorough and conscientious assessor. His work is well spoken of by all. The taxpayers committee who ask that the integrity of the Marion county assessment be maintained desired to pay their assessor a high compliment. But they did not mean that any injustice should be done to Marion county. They did not mean that her farming lands should be valued at fourteen dollars an acre and other counties with equally as good lands be allowed to slip in for nine dollars an acre. That would be manifestly unjust. No one asks that. No zeal to uphold the good work of our assessor would lead us into such excessive liberality. Our assessor would not wish a compliment at the expense of the taxpayers.

Our farmers don't wish to pay \$14 into the state treasury for every \$9 paid in by adjoining counties on every bit of good land as ours. To prevent such injustice is what the state board of equalizers is for. If that is not what they are for, what is their function? Counties with lands as good as Marion county lands, and there are not many of them, (we wish there were more), assessed as low as we have intimated should be raised a little. Marion should be lowered a little. The totals of the whole state should not be raised. Not a dollar. The returned valuations of all the counties should be equalized. Equalized.

To accept Marion's assessment as a standard of the best agricultural counties would be a compliment to Marion, but very expensive to the other counties of the Willamette valley. It would be like accepting the grade of one man's shoe as a city which happened to be

three or four feet higher than all the rest of the town plat and then asking that all the rest be graded up to his. That would be unjust, unreasonable, foolish, insane. Does anyone propose that all the counties in the valley be raised up to Marion? All the representatives from all the counties so far heard from before the board are here asking that their counties be not raised and some ask reductions in valuations. They are right. They should not be raised up to Marion. And Marion should not be lowered to them. But all the counties should be properly and judiciously equalized.

REDUCING EXPENSES.

The report of the committee on reducing city expenses does not go far enough. It is manifestly unjust to discharge men on the police force and street force who are getting more day wages and allow the marshal's salary and fees to remain near the three thousand dollar mark. The Marshal himself would not say that it is a fair proportion. One thousand dollars is a big income these days and in reducing expenses the committee should consider this. It should be remembered that \$100 a month means a year or two since are glad to get work at \$50 a month in such positions. Incomes of all classes of professional service has been reduced and \$50 will bring as much as \$100 a few years ago.

SUGGESTED COMMENT.

THE JOURNAL is not the governor's organ.

\$65,000,000 was spent for drinks in Chicago last year.

THE JOURNAL New Year edition will be a creditable newspaper.

The hard-times Christmas of 1893 will be long remembered.

Salem is too live a town to be a good graveyard for anything.

Henry George lectures on abolishing poverty for \$500 a night.

In spending for Christmas throw in a half-dollar for the McGee benefit.

The Klondike gift is Santa Claus's best Christmas gift for Uncle Sam's stocking.

We shall know just how religious we are when that church census is completed.

Poems beginning "At Christmastide when the snow is deep" do not fit in these parts.

More want ads are brought to THE JOURNAL office every day than to all other daily papers in the city.

Iowa boasts an illustrated literary Monthly—The Midland Magazine of Des Moines, Johnson Brigham, editor.

Here is a consolation. Discussion of the Wilson Tariff ripper bill cannot make times any worse than they are.

Is alcohol a poison? The physicians who examined Richard McGee's stomach, said he had been poisoned.

The poor are sleeping in the cushioned pews of the big Chicago churches. It was formerly the rich who slept there.

As long as Governor Altgeld is being snubbed by the people of Illinois, the rest of the country is reasonably safe.

The name of ex-Governor Larrabee is connected with the presidency of the proposed Lakes and Gulf railroad project.

A duty of one cent a pound on sugar will bring \$45,000,000 revenue. Free wool and taxed sugar will kill any party.

Des Moines, Ia., with one hundred thousand population has three daily papers. Portland, another 100,000 city has only two.

R. P. Clark, the present brilliant editor of the Iowa State Register, was until 50 years of age connected solely with its business interests.

Ron. H. W. Corbett, of Portland, is honoring the people of this state signal service in his vigorous conduct of the committee of One Hundred at Portland.

Buy no luxuries for the older ones unless you can afford it but do not cut off the toys and knick-knacks from the younger children at the Christmas season.

The Democrats will make up their revenue deficit by increased Internal revenue and legacy taxes. Whisky and death were always a source of Democratic inspiration.

You will never miss that half dollar you spent at the Baby McGee benefit, you will have a happy evening, and these six little children will be that much better provided for this long dreary winter. Tickets for sale at this office.

Governor McKinley, of Ohio, firmly adheres to his determination to have a quiet and inexpensive inauguration. There is Jeffersonian simplicity about our next president that is commendable.

TODAY'S MARKETS.

Prices Current by Telegraph—Local and Portland Quotations.

SALEM, December 21, 4 p. m.—OFFICE DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL. Quotations for day and up to hour of going to press were as follows:

SALEM PRODUCE MARKET.

FEEDS.

Apples—30c to 50c a bushel.

BUTCHER STOCK.

Veals—dressed 5 cts.

Hogs—dressed 15 cts.

Live cattle—14 to 15 cts.

Sheep—alive \$1.50.

MILL PRICES.

Salem Milling Co. Quotations: Flour \$1.25

in wholesale lots \$2.50. Retail \$3.20.

Brass \$14 bulk, \$15 sacked. Shorts \$15

16 1/2. Chop feed \$1.50.

WHEAT.

43 1/2 cents per bushel.

HAY AND GRAIN.

Oats—new 25 to 30c.

Hay—Baled, new \$6 to \$10; old \$10 to

\$12. Wild in bulk, \$6 to \$8.

FARM PRODUCTS.

Wool—Best, 10c.

Hops—Small sale, 17 to 18c.

Eggs—Cash, 27 1/2.

Butter—Best dairy, 30; fancy

creamery, 35.

Cheese—12 to 15 cts.

Farm smoked meats—Bacon 12;

hams, 13; shoulders, 11.

Potatoes—35c.

Onions—2 cts.

Beeswax—34c. Caraway seed, 15c.

Anise seed, 25c. Ginseng, \$1.40.

LIVE POULTRY.

Chickens—no market, ducks, \$8 to 10;

turkeys, slow sale, choice, 10c; game 5 to 7c.

PORTLAND QUOTATIONS.

Grain, Feed, etc.

Flour—Standard, \$2.50; Walla Walla,

\$3.15; Graham, \$2.50; superfine, \$2.25

per barrel.

Oats—New white, 35c per bu. grey, 34c;

rolled, 10 bags, \$6.25; 25 bags, \$6.75;

40 bags, \$7.00; cases, \$7.25.

Hay—Best, \$10 to \$12 per ton.

Wool—Valley, 10 to 11c.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.00; shorts, \$16;

ground barley, \$18; chop feed, \$15

per ton; whole feed, barley, 70 cts. per

cental; middling, \$22 to \$23 per cental; brew

ing barley, \$20 to \$21 per cental; chicken

wheat, \$20 to \$21 per cental.

Hops—New 10 to 15c.

Hides—green, salted, 60 lbs. 3 1/2c, under

60 lbs., 2 3/4c; sheep pelts, 10c to 60c.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Oregon fancy creamery, 30c;

24c; fancy dairy, 25c to 27c; fair to good,

20c to 22c; common, 15 to 17c per lb.

Cheese—Oregon, 12 to 13c; Young

American, 15c to 16c per pound; California

14c; Swiss import, 20c to 22c; Dutch, 16c to

18c.

Eggs—Oregon, 27c per dozen.

Poultry—Nominal; chickens, mixed,

\$2 to \$3 per dozen; ducks, \$4 to \$5 per

dozen; geese, \$9.00; turkeys, live, 12c;

dressed, 13c.

Beef—Top steers, 24c per pound; fair

to good steers, 20c; No. 1 cow, fair

to good, 14c to 16c; No. 2 cow, fair

to good, 10c to 12c; No. 3 cow, fair

to good, 8c to 10c; No. 4 cow, fair

to good, 6c to 8c; No. 5 cow, fair

to good, 4c to 6c; No. 6 cow, fair

to good, 2c to 4c; No. 7 cow, fair

to good, 1c to 2c; No. 8 cow, fair

to good, 10c to 12c; No. 9 cow, fair

to good, 8c to 10c; No. 10 cow, fair

to good, 6c to 8c; No. 11 cow, fair

to good, 4c to 6c; No. 12 cow, fair

to good, 2c to 4c; No. 13 cow, fair

to good, 1c to 2c; No. 14 cow, fair

The clergyman at our church last Sunday, while indulging in some figurative expressions in his sermon, used the phrase, "Like the roe which leaps upon the mountain," referring of course to the Scriptural animal of that name. As I was coming out of church a horny headed and sunburned fellow pilgrim stepped up to me and said:

"See yer, stranger, what d'you think of that fellow in the pulpit?"

"I think he is a pretty fair sort of a man; near sighted, maybe, and poor, but taking him altogether, good."

"Well, see yer, stranger! Did you observe what he said about the roe jumping on a mountain? D'you hear him say that?"

"Yes. What about it?"

"Well, look a yer, Cap. of course he was a-jokin, wa'n't he?"

"Certainly he was not."

"See yer, now, you don't mean to say he was a-tryin' to gag that down as a fact? He don't really believe that no roe ever jumped on a mountain, now, does he?"

"He does of course, and so do I. I know it."

"Well, look a yer, mister! I'm a mere child 'bout most things. I can swallow a most any ordinary lie. You kin stuff me full of owdacious falsehoods when I'm sufferin' from ignorance. But you must excuse me on this. Yes, sir, I sware you when you ask me to gorge myself with that kinder lie. I've bin a-ketchin' shad an herring 'most all my life, and gettin' the roe out or 'em, but I never seen no roe that could git up an spit when you on't laid it down. I want er religious; I want er right and b'lieve in preachers, but when you ask me to b'lieve that any shad roe ever bounced up a hill and frolicked around over the grass my stummick goes agin it. It's too much, stranger; much too much."

Then I unfolded the matter to him, and he went away comforted.—Boston Courier.

A Modern Financier.

Business Man—See here, sir! You gave me a check on the Highly bank, and I find that there is no such institution.

Financier (who has been playing in hard luck)—Hold on to the check, my dear sir. It will be all right. The bank isn't in operation yet.

"Sir?"

"Oh, it's all right. After I get a few thousand of those checks out the holders will find it to their interest to club together and help me start the bank."

New York Weekly.

A Lasting Memorial.

"You are going to erect a monument to your father's memory, I suppose?" said a friend of a deceased New York millionaire to one of his sons.

"Oh, no. Monuments crumble and decay and are forgotten. We are going to do something that will keep his memory alive much longer."

"What's that?"

"We are going to fight in the courts for his property."—Texas Siftings.

Too Much Enthusiasm.

Struggling Pastor—I never saw such enthusiasm as there is about our next church entertainment to raise money for my salary. When I called for persons to sell tickets, the whole congregation arose and came forward.

Wife—Yes, at the last entertainment those who sold tickets were let in free.—

SAN FRANCISCO MARKET.

Wool: Oregon Eastern choice, 10c;

12c; do inferior, 8c to 9c; do valley, 12c

to 15c.

Hops—16 to 18c.

Potatoes—Early Rose, 50c to 55c. Bur-

banks, 35c to 45c.

Oats—Milling, \$1.12 to \$1.17.

Agos, Sages and Wages.

If you have a wife and half-a-dozen daughters, you can keep them all well by very simple means. Let them use Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It is good for women of all ages. You will not need to spend all your wages for it. Those ancient sages, the M. D. of a century since, did nothing but a dose, and bleed their patients. We do better to day: We use Dr. Pierce's remedies. For womanhood, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is indispensable. The young girl needs its strengthening help at that critical period when she is blossoming into womanhood. The mother and mother-in-law in vigor find relief from the numerous ailments which beset their existence. And ladies well advanced in years universally acknowledge the revivifying and restorative effects of this favorite and standard remedy.

Will be found an excellent remedy for sick headache, Carter's Little Liver Pills. Quotations of letters from persons who have used them prove this fact. Try them!

"Sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills? They are small and easy to take. People who have used them speak truly of their worth. They are small and easy to take."

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, business or constipation, you will not be without them. They are so easy to take and so easy to take.

Economize in Paper.

Clean newspapers, tied in bundles of 100, not cut, for sale at this office at fifteen cents a bundle. A heavy straw wrapping paper, large sheets, two cents a pound. Next door to the postoffice.

VIGOR OF MEN

Weakness, Nervousness, Debility.

and all the train of evils from early excess or later excesses, the results of overwork, sickness, worry, and all the ailments of the body. Simple, natural, and effective. No artificial stimulants. No dangerous poisons. No false promises. No exaggerated claims. No cheap imitations. No cheap imitations. No cheap imitations.

ERIE MEDICAL CO. BUFFALO, N. Y.

Bids for Asylum Supplies.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE Oregon State Asylum invite sealed proposals for furnishing at the asylum near Salem, Oregon, the following supplies for the six months ending June 30, 1934.

PLUMBING.

1 doz. each 1/2, 3/4, 1, 1 1/2 and 2 inch tees.

1 doz. each 1/2, 3/4, 1, 1 1/2 and 2 inch elbows.

1 doz. each 1/2 and 1 inch Keystone unions.

1 doz. each 1/2 and 1 inch flange unions.

1 doz. each 1/2, 3/4, 1, 1 1/2 and 2 inch street elbows.

1 doz. each 1/2 and 1 inch sockets.

1 doz. each 1/2 and 1 inch plugs.

1 doz. each 1/2 and 1 inch compression pipe, finished.

1 doz. each 1/2 and 1 inch compression hose extra, finished.

1 doz. each 1/2 and 1 inch Jenkins's valves removable disks.

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